

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

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FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8352

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EPAP, JA

SUBJ: JAPAN TEXTILE CONSULTATIONS

1. CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN USTEXDEL AND GOJ WERE CONCLUDED JULY 29. TALKS WERE FRIENDLY AND AMICABLE. GOJ CHIEF NEGOTIATOR KOBAYASHI WAS OBVIOUSLY NEW TO THE JOB AND STILL LEARNING.

2. ISSUES DISCUSSED: (A) DRAFT NOTE: USG AGREED TO USE GOJ DRAFT AS BASIS FOR NOTES, AND IN PARTICULAR TO USE GOJ WORDING IN PARA 3 (3); I.E. INSTEAD OF "FOR THE TWELVE-MONTH PERIOD BEGINNING WITH THE MONTH DURING WHICH THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES MADE THE REQUEST FOR CONSULTATIONS, AT LEVELS..." AS ORIGINALLY AGREED, USE "FOR THE TWELVE MONTH PERIOD ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1978, AT LEVELS..." ETC.

COMMENT: WE TOOK GREAT PAINS TO EXPLAIN TO THE GOJDEL THAT THE NEW TIME FRAME REPRESENTED BY THE GOJ DRAFT NOTE (I.E., JANUARY TO DECEMBER 1978) WAS NOT CONSISTENT WITH THE USG UNDERSTANDING DURING THE HONOLULU TALKS. THE GOJDEL DISAGREED HOWEVER, AND POINTED OUT THAT GOJ LEGAL OFFICE INSISTED THAT NO PROVISIONS OF THE AMENDED BI-LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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LATERAL COULD EXTEND BEYOND THE BILATERAL'S EXPIRY DATE (I.E., BEYOND DECEMBER 31, 1978).

THAT BEING THE CASE, USTEXDEL AGREED TO GOJ POSITION WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THAT BOTH SIDES CLEARLY UNDERSTOOD WHAT THIS NEW TIME FRAME MEANT. TO WIT, IF THE USG CALLED JAPAN ON A PARTICULAR CATEGORY IN JULY, THE

REPRESENTATIVE 12 MONTH PERIOD WOULD BE IN THIS CASE MAY 1977 TO APRIL 1978 AND THE GOJ COULD SHIP NO MORE THAN 130 PERCENT (OR 109 PERCENT IF WOOL) OF THAT TWELVE MONTH PERIOD DURING THE PERIOD JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 1978. THE GOJDEL SAID THEY FULLY UNDERSTOOD THIS AND AGREED. END COMMENT.

IN ADDITION, IN PARAGRAPH 1 OF THE GOJ DRAFT, IT WAS AGREED TO DELETE "WILL BE" AND REPLACE IT WITH "IS".
(B) CATEGORY 43: LEVEL AGREED AT 1,910,000 DZ.
(C) CATEGORY 219: LEVEL AGREED AT 1,870,500 DZ.
(D) CATEGORY 208: LEVEL AGREED AT 204 MILL. SYDS. AND NO MORE THAN 17 MSYE PER MONTH.
(E) CATEGORY 210 (IMPRESSION FABRIC): OUR AARIL 1976 LETTER REMAINS IN EFFECT; THE LEVEL STAYS AT 5.7 MILL. SYDS.
(F) CATEGORY 104: AGREED UPON LEVEL IS 18,717,180 SYDS.
(G) CATEGORY 210: (OTHER THAN IMPRESSION FABRIC). LEVEL AGREED TO IS 15,440,000 SYDS.
(H) CATEGORY 200: CONTRACTS RECEIVED FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 1 - JUNE 30, 1978 TOTALLED 800,000 LBS. AND GOJ EXPECTS TOTAL 1978 CONTRACTS TO BE 2/3 OF 1977.
(I) CATEGORY 202: CONTRACTS RECEIVED FOR JANUARY 1 - JUNE 30, 1978 WERE FOR 10.366 MILL: LBS. GOJ EXPECTS TOTAL 1978 TO BE 40 PERCENT LESS THAN 1977.
(J) CATEGORY 50: JAPANESE AGREEMENT PERFORMANCE REPORT PREPARED BY OTEX SHOWS GENERAL IMPORTS FOR YE 5/78 OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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677,016 DZ., AN INCREASE OF 658,053 DZ OVER YE 5/77. GOJ RECORDS INDICATE NO SUCH SURGE. PLS. CONFIRM DATA.
(K) CATEGORY 51: WE INFORMED GOJ THAT WE WERE SERIOUSLY CONSIDERING CALLING THEM ON THIS CATEGORY AS WELL AS ON CATEGORY 50 (PROVIDING OUR DATA IS CORRECT).
(L) CLASSIFICATION: GOJ BELIEVES THAT THE OLD 219 VS 221 CLASSIFICATION PROBLEM IS THE REASON FOR CATEGORY 219 BEING OVERSHIPPED LAST YEAR. PLS FWD COPY OF SWEATER/SHIRT DEFINITION DEVELOPED ABOUT 1974 TO AMEMBASSY, TOKYO, ATTN: G. RUBINSTEIN, FOR MR. MASUDA, MITI.
(M) NEW AGREEMENT: U.S. AND GOJ AGREED THAT THERE SHOULD BE A NEW AGREEMENT BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 1978. USDEL INFORMED GOJ THAT IN VIEW OF RISING IMPORTS FROM JAPAN, THE POSSIBILITY OF STRUCTURED (I.E., SIMILAR TO PRE-1974) AGREEMENT IS BEING SERIOUSLY CONSIDERED. GOJ HAD SAID EARLIER IN THE MEETING THAT IT WAS TENTATIVELY THINKING OF A THREE-YEAR AGREEMENT IN A FORMAT SIMILAR TO THE PRESENT ARRANGEMENT. UNGER

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